## 221513US0PCT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

RYOICHI SAKAUE ET AL

: EXAMINER:

SERIAL NO: 10/088,524

FILED: APRIL 1, 2002

: GROUP ART UNIT:

FOR: METHOD OF ASSAYING

GLYCATED PROTEIN

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as

follows:

IN THE TITLE

Please replace the title on page 1, line 1 with the following:

--METHOD OF ASSAYING GLX

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 4-13 with the following paragraph:

At present, methods proposed for assaying glycated hemoglobin (HbAlc) include a method in which glycated hemoglobin is directly assayed in that state by electrosprayionization mass spectrometry (Clinical Test, 42, 340-343 (1997)), a method in which endoproteinase Glu-C is allowed to act on glycated hemoglobin, a liberated  $\alpha$ -glycated hexapeptide derived from  $\beta$ -subunit ( $\alpha$ -amino group of an amino acid at the amino terminus of hexapeptide is glycated) is fractionated by reversed phase high performance liquid chromatography, and the content thereof is determined through mass spectrometry analysis to

